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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: James E. McCambridge  
Serial No.: 09/955,690  
Conf. No.: 9754  
Filed: 9/19/2001  
For: ATTACHMENT FOR HAIR  
CLIPPERS  
Art Unit: 3724  
Examiner: Alie, Ghassem

*I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST-CLASS mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.*

26 Jan 05

Date

Registration No. 29,367  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

TRANSMITTAL

Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

(X) Reply Brief.

(X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. Two duplicate copies of this sheet are enclosed.

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GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By:

Patrick G. Burns

Registration No. 29,367



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REPLY BRIEF

Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents  
Commissioner for Patents  
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Examiner's brief mailed December 29, 2004, please consider the following remarks. These remarks will address part (11) Response to Argument, on pages 4-7 of the Examiner's brief.

The Examiner insists that the blade 5 and driving member 7 of Tanaka define a reciprocating blade, but a driving member is not a blade. The independent claims of the present application require that the trimmer blade reciprocate in response to reciprocation of the reciprocating blade of the hair clipper, irrespective of whether the driving member, motor, etc. are also in the drive train. In Tanaka, the trimmer blade 4 reciprocates in response to the driving member 7, but it does not reciprocate in response to the shaver blade 5.

Without movement of the trimmer blade 4 in response to movement of the shaver blade 5, the reference simply does not anticipate the rejected claims, or render them obvious.

The Examiner's analysis of an embodiment of the present invention misses the point. In the present invention, the reciprocating blade 18 drives the drive arm 24, which in turn moves the blade guide 126 and the trimmer blade 130. The trimmer blade 130 clearly reciprocates in response to reciprocation of the reciprocating blade 18. Whether the trimmer blade 130 also operates in response to a drive member of the clipper blade 18 is irrelevant, because there is an operational relationship between the trimmer blade 130 and the hair clipper blade 18. That feature is missing in Tanaka, because the trimmer blade 4 in Tanaka only operates in response to the driving member 7, not the blade 5. This is the error in the Examiner's analysis.

For the foregoing reasons, Appellant requests reversal of the rejection of claims 1-3, 7, 9-11 and 15-17.

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

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January 26, 2005

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